Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Kindly cancel original claims 1 - 15 without prejudice, in favor of new claims 16 - 32.

Claims 1 - 15. (Cancelled)

16. (New) A process for preparing pulverulent ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymers, comprising free-radically polymerizing ethylene and one or more vinyl esters, and optionally further monomers copolymerizable therewith to obtain an ethylene-vinyl ester copolymer, subsequently hydrolyzing the ethylene-vinyl ester copolymer to an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer, and precipitating the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer following hydrolysis in alcoholic solution, by means of cooling with a temperature gradient, and optional addition of water,

the temperature gradient for ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymers derived from low molecular weight ethylene-vinyl ester copolymers having a weight-average molecular weight Mw of from 2000 to 100,000 g/mol being from -0.1°C/min to -10°C/min, and

the temperature gradient for ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymers which are derived from high molecular weight ethylene-vinyl ester copolymers having a weight-average molecular weight Mw of > 100,000 g/mol being from -0.1°C/min to -1°C/min, and

isolating a pulverulent ethylene-vinyl alcohol polymer.

17. (New) The process of claim 16, wherein cooling is maintained until a temperature which is above the Tg of the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer but below the melting point of the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer is reached.

18. (New) The process of claim 16, wherein the high molecular weight ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer is first cooled to a temperature of from 40°C to 70°C with

a temperature gradient of from -1°C/min to -10°C/min, and the cooling is subsequently continued down to a temperature of from 10°C to 35°C at a lower temperature gradient of from -0.1°C/min to -1°C/min.

19. (New) The process of claim 17, wherein the high molecular weight ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer is first cooled to a temperature of from 40°C to 70°C with a temperature gradient of from -1°C/min to -10°C/min, and the cooling is subsequently continued down to a temperature of from 10°C to 35°C at a lower temperature gradient of from -0.1°C/min to -1°C/min.

20. (New) The process of claim 16, wherein the precipitation of the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer is promoted by addition of water.

21. (New) The process of claim 17, wherein the precipitation of the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer is promoted by addition of water.

22. (New) The process of claim 18, wherein the precipitation of the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer is promoted by addition of water.

23. (New) The process of claim 20, wherein the amount of water added is from 0.3 to 5.0 times the weight of the ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

24. (New) The process of claim 21, wherein the amount of water added is from 0.3 to 5.0 times the weight of the ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

25. (New) The process of claim 22, wherein the amount of water added is from 0.3 to 5.0 times the weight of the ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

26. (New) The process of claim 16, wherein the pulverulent ethylene-vinyl alcohol polymer is resuspended in water, solvent residues are optionally removed by distillation or stripping, and the pulverulent product is isolated by filtration.

27. (New) A foil, film or laminate, comprising at least one ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer prepared by the process of claim 16.

28. (New) A molding prepared from an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer prepared by the process of claim 16.

29. (New) A coating composition comprising at least one ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer prepared by the process of claim 16.

30. (New) An additive for a powder coating composition comprising at least one ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer prepared by the process of claim 16.

31. (New) An adhesive, comprising at least one ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer prepared by the process of claim 16.

32. (New) A polymer binder in a building material containing an inorganic hydraulically setting binder, wherein at least one polymer binder comprises an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer prepared by the process of claim 16.